

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 NIC-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-04

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 CU-04 IO-14 AID-20 PC-04 DRC-01

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R 071446Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6371

INFO USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 3289

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, AR

SUBJECT: ORGANIZED LABOR REACTION TO MAY DAY

1. VIRTUALLY UNANIMOUS REACTION ORGANIZED LABOR TO MAY DAY CELEBRATION WAS FEELING OF "GREAT SATISFACTION." LABOR ESPECIALLY PLEASED WITH PRESIDENT PERON'S STRONG SUPPORT FOR CURRENT LABOR LEADERSHIP, HIS CITING OF WORKING CLASS AS LEADERS OF PERONIST MOVEMENT, AND HIS STRONG DENOUNCIATION OF LEFTIST AGITATORS. LABOR SOURCES BELIEVE THAT PERON HAS NOW DEFINITELY "DEFINED HIMSELF" IN FAVOR OF THE RIGHT WING. THEY STATE IT IS IMMATERIAL WHETHER YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS FORMALLY WITHDRAW FROM MOVEMENT, AS THEIR VIEWPOINTS WILL NO LONGER RECEIVE ANY SUPPORT IN GOVERNMENT OR POLITICAL CIRCLES.

2. THE ONLY CONCERN EXPRESSED BY LABOR SOURCES WAS THEIR OWN INABILITY TO TURN OUT THE WORKERS FOR THE MAY DAY ACTIVITIES. WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF THE YOUTH GROUPS, THE PLAZA DE MAYO WOULD HAVE BEEN LITTLE MORE THAN HALF FILLED. THEY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THEY ARE NOW UNABLE TO MOBILIZE THE WORKERS EVEN FOR

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PERON. IN CONTRAST, THEY POINT OUT THE "FANTASTIC DISCIPLINE"

OF THE YOUTH WHICH ENABLED THEM NOT ONLY TO MOBILIZE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF THEIR ADHERENTS, BUT ALSO TO ABANDON THE PLAZA, EN MASSE, ON COMMAND. LABOR SOURCES ARE HOPEFUL THAT PERON'S DENUNCIATION WILL ENCOURAGE DISAFFECTION OF MANY OF THE YOUTH, BUT THEY REALIZE THAT THE LEFTIST YOUTH LEADERS WILL CONTINUE TO CREATE TROUBLE SO LONG AS "UNIVERSITY POLITICS" PERMITS THEM TO OPERATE SO FREELY WITHIN THE UNIVERSITIES.

3. COMMENT: VIEWS OF LEFTIST YOUTH SECTOR ARE CERTAINLY LIKELY TO RECEIVE EVEN LESS CONSIDERATION FROM PERON IN FUTURE THAN THEY HAVE RECEIVED IN PAST. WHETHER THEY WILL RECEIVE NO SUPPORT AT ALL, HOWEVER, AS LABOR SECTOR BELIEVES, REMAINS TO BE SEEN.
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